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INDIANAPOLIS, SUNDAY MORNING, AUGUST 23, 1891-SIXTEEN PAGES.

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#### SUNDAY JOURNAL. SILVERWARE

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Knives and Spoons islands in the Pacific, which form a strange volcanic group crossed by the line of the equater. They are perfectly barren and uninhabited save by extraordinary reptiles and birds, which are found nowhere else in the world. Of twenty-live sorts of land-birds secured there by Darwin on the occasion of his visit, all but one were peculiar to the little archipelago. Most remarkable among the reptiles were gigantic tortoises, which grew to 700 or 800 pounds each in weight. These last have been almost exterminated by sailors, who Forks, set, \$3.45. All of these goods are guaranteed to be Rogers Bros. best make.

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gans Who Maintain Eternal Fires-A New

Vegetable-Improvements in Nuts.

NAKED NEIGHBORS OF OURS

WASHINGTON, Aug. 21 .- Concerning the native populations of the South American republics with which Uncle Sam has recently entered into commercial relations, the Department of State has taken pains to collect a good deal of interesting information. Not the least extraordinary of these peoples is the unique race which inhabits the great island called Terra del Fuego, or "Land of Fire," at the southern end of the continent, claimed jointly by Chili and the Argentine. It was given this name by Magellan because of the fires that were kept eternally burning along the shore, never being permitted to go out. The natives are the fiercest savages known in the world, and approach most nearly to the beast, with no foreheads to speak of, their hair growing down to their eyebrows. Their favorite and customary food is half-putrid fish, seal and whale meat thrown up by the sea along the coast about Cape Horn during the frightful storms that assail that bleak and inhospitable strand. From time to time the

corpses of wrecked sailors afford them much-relished feasts, without the trouble of cooking. They eat everything raw, the fires being simply for warmth, for the climate is exceedingly cold. Nevertheless, they go about practically naked, wearing only a cloak of rat-skin or other fur hung over one shoulder, and always on the windward side. A Fuegan woman will sell you this garment off her back any time, and trudge off perfectly nude, but quite content, through a raging snow-squall.

The Fuegans live in heles under the ground, covered over with brush, bark and wild cabbage leaves. In the center of each dwelling, which is entered by an inclined tunnel, a fire is kept perpetually burning, the smoke finding its way out through a hole in the roof. The embers are never allowed to become extinguished, because the fires being simply for warmth, for the eli-

the smoke inding its way out through a hole in the roof. The embers are never allowed to become extinguished, because the people know no way of making fire, and if it was lost they could not reproduce it. It is supposed that they brought it originally, centuries ago, from some volcano in the Cordilleras. Their subterranean retreats are constructed in the manner described in order to economize warmth. In every canoe, also, a perennial blaze is kept up on a clay flooring in the middle for convenience when a fishing or trading excursion is to be made. The children's chief duty is to keep up the fires. Recently great discoveries of gold have been made in that country, and Argentine miners have gone there with troops for protection. The latter have numerous encounters with the natives, killing them without quarter like wild beasts. Many anarmed expedition has gone against these savages, who have never been subdued, though reduced in numbers. About forty thousand of them are supposed to remain. Not long ago in the Straits of Mageilan a ship of the Pacific Steam Navigation Company picked up a naked British sailor, whose live companions, survivors from the wreck of an English barque, had been killed by

five companions, survivors from the wreck of an English barque, had been killed by Fuegans. This man was saved to amuse the women and children, who beat him constantly to make him dance. When rescued he was a mass of sores and bruises.

ABORIGINES OF ECUADOR, Not less interesting than the Fuegans are the aborigines of Ecuador, who use against their enemies and in the capture of game arrows tipped with a mysterious poison of unknown origin, which is sure and sudden death to man or beast. These deadly weapons are fired from blow-pipes ten feet 150 feet. Among these people, if a woman is tired of her husband, she gives him a draught of "floripondie," distilled from a plant rescubling the stramony, by drinking which the Delphic priests of old sought inspiration for their cracular utterances. The beverage transforms the man into an idiot, and the wife marries again. Another curious custom prevalent again. Another curious custom prevalent in the same region obliges a man, when his wife is confin. d. to go to bed bimself and receive all the attentions ordinarily due to a female in childbirth. To Ecnador belong the Galapagos islands in the Pacific, which been almost exterminated by sailors, who have made a practice of stopping at the islands to provision their ships with turtle-flesh, the animals being too unwieldy to

flesh, the animals being too unwieldy to elude capture.

Many strange race types most surprising to the ethnologist are found along the Amazon and its tributaties. On the high slopes of the Andes dwell people who make a practice of chopping off the heads of their enemies, and preserving them for ornamental uses. The process employed in the preparation of these weird trophies is quite an art in itself, the head being literally boned—that is to say, deprived of the skull. For this purpose the throat is sliced around with a knife, and the skin is drawn off over the skull, with care to keep sliced around with a knife, and the skin is drawn off over the skull, with care to keep uninjured the mouth, nose and other features. Next, the skin being turned right side out, it is tilled with hot gravel, which makes it shrink. I resh heated gravel is put in at intervals, until the head has shrunk to quarter the size of that of a newborn baby. Its appearance thus transformed is astonishingly grotesque, and much pleasure is derived from hanging it by its long black hair from a rafter in the house for the family to jeer at and abuse now and then.

On the lower Amazon dwell the cannibal Butocudos, who distort their features with Butcendos, who distort their features with the biggest ornaments of a certain kind known. In babyhood both men and women have their lower lips and the lobes of their ears pierced with holes, in which are thrust pieces of wood. As they grow older these wooden adornments are made bigger and bigger, until an adult ordinarily has ear-lobes that hang down to the shoulders, and lobes that hang down to the shoulders, and a lip that projects six inches or more beyond the nose. One must suffer to be beautiful, as the French say, and such is the inexorable fashsion among these anthropophagi. In that country a young man who desires to take a wife must first submit himself to a frightful ordeal. He draws over each arm up to the shoulder a loose armlet woven of palm leaves. Then, under supervision by his elders, he plunges both arms as far as he can into a nest of fierce devouring ants. The insects at once attack the intruder, of course, and, according to the terms of the trial, he must stand without moving for an hour, submitting with absolute stoicism to the bites of the enraged creatures. If he endures the test, he is entitled to a bride; otherwise he must wait a year and then undergo it again. wait a year and then undergo it again. There are still tribes descended from the ancient Incas which bandage the heads of their children so that they assume a comi-cal form. Funnily enough, the brain does not seem to suffer any injury from this

FEROCIOUS BARBARIANS. In Paraguay live the ferocious Indians of the Gran Chaco, or "Great Woods," who, only a few days ago, massacred every soul in a civilized village of six hundred people. Before long they will be annihilated, and a superb territory will be open to settiement. It is covered with the finest forests in the world, full of tigers, pumas, panthers, monkeye, parrots, macaws and other interesting birds and beasts. The trees are largely of the most precious woods—particularly those which will not woods—particularly those which will not float in water, such as the black palm, iron-long shoot, which appears and fructifies and laughing most artlessly. It is the soll-long shoot, which appears and fructifies and laughing most artlessly. It is the soll-long shoot, which appears and fructifies and laughing most artlessly. It is the soll-long shoot, which appears and fructifies and laughing most artlessly. It is the soll-long shoot, which appears and fructifies and laughing most artlessly. It is the soll-long shoot, which are covered on the back in the same and laughing most artlessly. It is the soll-long shoot, which are covered on the back in the same and laughing most artlessly. It is the soll-long shoot, which are covered on the back in the same and laughing most artlessly. It is the soll-long shoot, which are covered on the back in the same and laughing most artlessly. It is the soll-long shoot, which are covered on the back in the same and laughing most artlessly. It is the soll-long shoot, which appears and fructifies and laughing most artlessly. It is the soll-long shoot, which are covered on the back in the laughing most artlessly. It is the soll-long shoot, which are covered on the back in the laughing most artlessly.

flows the Iguassu river, falling in a cata- ing spores for the purpose of its own repro-ract which surpasses Niagara in mag- duction. The natives in Thibet and niticence. In the neighborhood of this in the provinces of Hupeh and waterfall no human dwellings are to be found, because the natives believe that the demon of the stream occupies the spot. ln western Patagonia, among the Cordilleras mountains, dwell the giants of whom so many big stories have been told. As a matter of fact, these Araucanians, as they are called, are rarely under six feet in height and sometimes reach eight feet, seven feet men being not infrequent. Though mildly disposed, they admit no strangers to their territory, and, by stubborn resistance, have compelled Chili to let them alone. Fabulous treasures of gold and silver are believed to be stored away and silver are believed to be stored away in their mountains, but prospectors who have ventured thither have always been driven away. They commonly adorn themselves with rich and heavy ornaments of these precions metals. The greater part of Patagonia belongs now to the Argentine Republic, Chili holding by treaty the strip along the Pacific coast which continues its shoestring-like territory for pearly half the shoestring-like territory for nearly half the length of South America. Most of the country is a desert waste, cold climate and contrasting strongly with the richly productive pampas or plains of the southern Argentine. These pampas are remarkable for the strange illusions which beset the eye of the traveler who journeys over them. On any bright day a distant thistle-field is, as like as not, to be transformed seemingly into a forest, while a few clumps of grass will take on the appearance of a troop of horsemen. Mirages are constantly in view, frequently offering a deiusive prospect of water, by which men are often deceived, but their horses never. If there is one characteristic which gen-

the forests of the upper Amazon one finds the tribes, both men and women, habitually wearing no other costume than that in which they were born. Not even the breech-clout or apron is considered necessary. Even in frigid Tierra del Fuego, as has been said, nudity is the fashion. The human animal among

litted to take care of themselves, and, a

erally distinguishes these aborigines of the nether continent it is their nakedness. In

once taking to the chase, which is the sole pursuit of their elders, they get a living by hunting for the young of the vicuns and guanaco, and for estrich eggs.

However, there is one very notable exception to this rule of nakedness found among the natives of Venezuela and Gui-ana, who are, beyond comparison, the most beautifully dressed people, civilized or otherwise, in the world. They wear complete robes of gorgeous parrot feathers, head-dresses of other brilliant plumes, and necklaces made of thousands of lovely beetles' wings strung together, which adorn very effectively their tawny throats. Not only do they obtain the material for such garments by hunting, but they keep and raise parrots and many kinds of wild birds

for the same purpose, plucking them regu-

arly once a year. A NEW VEGETABLE-CURIOUS GRAFTING. A new vegetable is about to be introduced to the people of the United States through the Department of Agriculture. It is nothing more nor less than the root of the calls lily, which resembles somewhat in appearance the ordinary Irish tuber, with the addition of a few whiskers that have nothing to do with the case or with the qualities of the article as an esculent However, it is more elongated, and, when cut, the interior is a tride more viscid. Bu a section of it is so potato-like that you would not be likely to distinguish any difference. In cooking it has first to be boiled, in order to destroy certain acrid properties, after which it may be fried, roasted, baked, or what not, according to taste. Farmers in Florida have begun to raise these calla roots for market. The plants grow readily in swamps, and so thickly that the yield of a single flooded acre is enormous. They reproduce themselves by the multiplication of their bulbs underground, so that the grower has simply to dig up the offshoots grower has simply to dig up the offshoots grower has simply to dig up the oilshoots and leave the parents to propagate anew. For centuries the Egyptians have cultivated a similar crop during the seasons of the Nile overflow, and at the present time calla high buibs are a common vegetable in Japanese markets. So prolific and palatable are they that their propagation in many parts of the United States, where conditions are favorable, may reasonably be looked forward to as an agricultural industry of the future.

dustry of the future. The Department of Agriculture is continually engaged in trying to discover and encourage the cultivation of new and desirable varieties of fruits. Lately it has come across a sort of giant gooseberry that grows on trees, and within the last few days a long-sought prize has been obtained from Benton Harbor, Mich., in the shape of a really truly thornless blackberry. The picking of this latter delectable fruit has hitherto been interfered with to some extent by the spikes with which nature protects the branches, but in future, thanks to the expected efforts of enlightened agri-culturists, people will be able to go black-berrying without danger of pricking their

Experiments are at present being tried for the first time in the grafting of pecan trees. Accidental seedlings in Texas and New Mexico have developed nots of this kind as far superior to the ordinary ones marketed as the shell bark is better than a pig-nut. Furthermore, it has been demonstrated that these improved varities can readily be perpetuated, and even bettered by grafting. Only a little cultivation is necessary to produce pecans five or six times the size of the usual specimens, and with shells so papery as to be easily broken between the foreinger and thumb. The writer saw a good-sized pasteboard box full of such samples in the office of the United States pomologist yesterday, and ate a few to make sure of their delicious quality. It is the same way with chestnuts, which grow to the size of a horse chestnut in some parts of the United States. They, too, are being grafted, with a view to securing the perpetuation of their size and edible qualities. In a certain Illinois valley hickory nuts used to grow as wide as the palm of one's hand, and efforts are being made to obtain a surviving plant from which to propagate these wonders. What a wonderful thing the process called "grafting" is! How curious to see plums and cherries growing on a peach tree; or, not less marvelous, pears depending from a branch of an apple trunk! Cut a nick out of one of the limbs of an orange tree and insert a slip from a lemon tree, freshly taken. Lo! it grows, and that branch produces lemons. while the others are laden, in season, with oranges. In accomplishing these marvels, however, you must obey the laws of families in trees. You cannot successfully graft stone fruits on those which bear seeds, and the citrus kind, such as the orange and

lemon, will only go together.

The object sought by the skilled gardener, when he makes a graft, is to bring into contact the vital parts of the slip and of the tree on which the graft is made. Now, the vital organ of a tree is its under skin. The heart of the wood has nothing to do with its life, which will often be vigorous when the inner trunk is all eaten away and hollow. But beneath the bark is a layer of soft, cellular tissue, which gives birth to the fibre of the wood on the inside and to the fibre of the bark on the outside. During the winter this layer becomes thin and non-productive, but when spring comes
its cells multiply and multiply, forming
more wood inside and forcing the bark outward, thus adding to the diameter of the tree, until after a few centuries, perhaps, it becomes a monarch of the forest. Such is the way in which the oak, the elm, and most other trees native to these latitudes are developed; but the palm and its kind grow after the manner of cornstalks, which

A CURIOUS CHINESE FUNGUS. The Department of State has just received from Consul Jones, at Chinkiang, China, a small bottle containing some specimens of the curious fungus that grows out of a species of caterpillar, literally transforming the animal into a vegetable and causing the unhappy insect to serve the

duction. The natives in Thibet and in the provinces of Hupeh and Szechuan go about looking for this fungue in the neighborhood of certain sort of myrtle trees, where only is it to be found. They dig up such speci-mens as they discover and make them into little bundles, tied with red thread. in this shape they are sold as medicine, which is esteemed if possible more highly than the famous ginseng, being considered a powerful curative agent for diseases of the throat and lungs. Thus prepared for mar-ket, they look like diminutive bulrushes,

each having for its root the mummy of a caterpillar. Now, this fungus has no other method of growing than the one described. Therefore, the fructifying top that is above ground scatters its spores around under the scarlet-flowered myrtles on which the cater-pillars feed. When the latter burrow into the soil to hibernate they are apt to stir up some of the hostile germs, whereupon they are at once attacked and speedily transformed into vegetable tissue. Their bodies, without losing their natural shape or external appearance, are wholly filled with mycelium, and the substance of their flesh is metamorphosed into stalks sprouting from their heads. Thus is afforded the re-markable spectacle of living organisms which are insects in summer and plants in winter, Of course, a sufficient number of these afflicted larvæ must escape this fate to perpetuate their species from year to year, and to supply reproductive opportu-nities for the fungus. Curiously enough, the common white grub, which is the larva of a beetle, is in many parts of the United States attacked

by a fungus in a manner in all respects similar. It has been suggested that measures might be profitably taken to artificially inoculate this destructive worm on a large scale with the disease. With a view to bringing about its partial or entire extermination. Thus far no economic use has been found for the sprouts produced. In New Zealand there grows out of the body of a big caterpillar a surprising edible mushroom, the stocks of which are eight to ten inches in length, and are much the fashion. The number as nearly as pos-these peoples is reduced as nearly as pos-sible to a level with the brute, being dis-tinguished from the beast by absolutely the latter also burn it for use as a coloring matter. There is a fungus found in Costa nothing save the power of language. As | matter. There is a fungus found in Costa soon as the young are weaned they are per- Rica which in the same way employs a Deetle for its foot, as one might say The Japanese grow several species of edble fungi in logs of decayed wood after a fashion peculiar to themselves. One

species of mushroom, which is utilized in Europe for killing flies, being regarded as one of the most poisonous forms, is em-ployed by the northeastern tribes of Asia as a substitute for ardent spirits, a single large specimen being sufficient to produce a pleasant intoxication for a whole day. These same people use another kind of agaric, pounded, for snuff. By the Chinese still another variety is made to serve as a valued dye for silk. However, these are only a few of the existing curiosities in the RENE BACHE.

EMILE ZOLA'S CAREER, The Story of His Eventful Life as Told by

Zola, Mme. Van de Velde tells us, passed his early life in hideous literary drudgery. Often he had to endure the pangs of actual hunger. In the preface of a volume called "Nouveaux Contes a Ninon," he himself has drawn us a picture of this forlorn youth of

"How many storms have burst, what floods of turbid waters have passed under the crumbling bridges of my dreams! Ten years of a galley-slave's life. Ten years of bitterness, of blows given and received, of eternal struggle. Ninon, if you could see now your lever of other days—the tall lissom youth who thought he could over-throw mountains with the wave of his hand—if you saw him passing in the glare of Paris streets with his pale face and slow, heavy step, you would shrink from him and shiver, remembering the warm sunshine and ardent fervor forever gone.

"There are nights when I am so weary that I feel a dastardly longing to throw myself down by the wayside and fall asleep in the ditch, never to wake again. I have not laid down my pen for a single hour; I fought like a soldier who has his daily bread to conquer; if glory ever comes t will serve to make the bread less dry. heave with disgust at the thought of the nauseons work I have done; for during ten cruel years I fed the furnace of journalism with all that is best in me-leaves cast to the wind, flowers fallen to the mire-a com pound of what is excellent and what is very bad tossed together in the common manger. I have touched everything; stained my hands in the torrent of murky mediocrity, rising high above its ranks. My love of the absolute winced under the idiotic trifles puffed into importance at dawn and forgotten at night.

"When I dreamed of some eternal im-press on granite, some living work built to stand forever, I was blowing soap-bubbles, bursting at the winged touch of an insect droning in the sun. I should have foundered in the imbeculity of the trade if I had not clung to one comfort in my love of strength, the sustaining power of incessant production hardening me to every fatigue.
I was armed for the battle. You cannot conceive the furious wrath roused in me by sodden stupidity. I had the passion of my opinions; I would have thrust my beliefs into the throats of my opponents; a book maddened me; a picture affected me like a public catastrophe; I lived in a perpetual conflict of admiration and scorn. Outside literature and art, the world no longer existed; ] wielded my pen fiercely, I grappled fever-ishly to clear the ground before me. To-day I shrug my shoulders in pity—I am inured to evil; I have kept faith and am possibly still more intractable, but I shut my-self up and work."

And, this year, in referring to the studies he found necessary in order to write his latest novel, "L'Argent," he tells us that he has always despised money. In his youth, he writes, he knew well black poverty, and it did not dismay him. He never envied the rich. When fortune came he squandered it recklessly. He had no chil-dren for whom to provide. His wife is his cashier, and she lets him gratify all his costly fancies. His house is a museum of curiosities. Prosperity almost always means, for the married Frenchman, a pleasant home in the country. Zola has one at Medam, within easy reach of Paris. It was a modest little house, to begin with, but as he grew richer and richer, he added a wing, or raised a story, or threw out a bay window, until the luxuriant villa he now lives in is the result. He is a hard worker. He sits down to his task every day, and does it; then out and about he goes, seeing what he can do to beautify his abode; what he can buy for it that is costly and rare. He is a notably domestic man. In Guy de Maupassant's sense, he has never lived. The excesses and the adventures of which he writes were never his own.

#### Rudyard Kipling Incognito.

Illustrated American. There is a funny little story about Rud-yard Kipling, who, it is said, is about to marry a pretty American widow from Pittsburg. He works overmuch at his profession, and the other day was sent away by his physicians to take a little sea trip around the coast. The company was rather mixed and casual on board his ship, but one of his secrets of power is to fraternize and study at first hand all types of humanity. He became decidedly popular at the end of the first day out, and was invited to join some game in which the rules necessitated the giving of each player's name. "And what may yours be?" was demanded of the young author, who replied, with becoming modesty, that it was Rudyard Kipling, a statement greeted by shouts of derisive laughter. "That's a good one!" they cried, "you'll tell us you're William Shakspeare next." and from that moment be was called "Kipling," with a sarcastic emphasis meant to be withering, which filled him with delighted amusement.

The Solitary Fly.

It is a solitary fly that annoys. Where there are swarms of flies they have their time and attention partly occupied in mutnal conversation, playing tag and other fly diversions, but get into a room with a solitary fly and he will give you his undi-vided attention. He will buzz in your ear, tickle your head and perform all sorts of purpose of a root. It is the larva of a kind of moth, and when the cold of winter approaches it makes its way down into the soil to the depth of three or four inches. There it is attacked by this remarkable distriction. He will give you his undistricted by this remarkable districted by this remarkable districted by the latter of the same hame of the faithful, but whose the is worn away by the kisses of the faithful, but whose marble chair is covered with the names of visitors (Italian) in lead-pencil; and the splendid group of the lacecoon in the Vatican, the figures in

#### THE ETERNAL CITY AS IT IS

Twenty Years Have Wrought a Great Transformation in Italy's Capital.

The Old Gives Place to the New, and the Tiber Is Spanned by an Iron Truss Bridge-Brick and Stucco as Building Material.

Correspondence of the Sunday Journal. ROME, August, 1891 .- The first inquiry on reaching Rome is, naturally, "Where are the seven hills?" The traveler soon encounters them, but it takes time and careful observation to distinguish and identify them, since the Quirinal, the Viminal, the Esquiline and the valleys between them, as well as the old Campus Martins-in other words, the northern and eastern areas of the city-are thickly covered with houses, churches and palaces. The Calian hill is inconspicuous; but the Capitoline, the Palatine and the Aventine stand boldly forth, stretching southward in the order named. Those who come to Rome for its historical interest will hasten to get their first look at the Forum, the Colosseum, the Tiber and St. Peter's; and then settle down for a long and leisurely round of visits, The quarry is inexhaustible; the most industrious worker can but pick out a block here and there. I shall make no attempt to describe objects which photographs and

One may always be pardoned for yielding to sentimental reflections in Rome, but to inflict them upon his friends is a delicate matter. I will only say on this point that we indulged ourselves pretty freely as we walked through the Forum, especially when X climbed the crumbling Rostra Julia and stood where Mare Antony stood to deliver his oration over the body of Casar. It was interesting also to see the checker-boards (or their Roman equivalent) cut out in the stone floor of the Basilica Julia by the old Roman loungers for their favorite game. In the so-called Mamertine prison, at the northwest angle of the Forum (a vaulted underground cell, whose construction dates back to the early period of Rome). Jugurtha. Vereingetorix, and the accomplices of Catiline perished, and St. Peter was imprisoned. To descend into the dark and damp cell, still roofed with its primitive stone vault, and essentially unchanged for two thousand years, and to dwell for a moment upon the scenes that have occurred within it, will impress even the least imaginative mind. TRANSFORMATION OF THE ANCIENT CITY.

books have long since made familiar.

It is well known that since the beginning of the new political era (1870) Rome has been undergoing a transformation into a city of the modern type. The Ghetto, or Jews' quarter, has been entirely demolished, and the space is partially covered with new buildings. New and broad streets have been opened, large and handsome buildings have sprung up, especially in the eastern quarter, on the Quirinal and the Esquiline. In many places one meets with rows of half-demolished houses, whose ragged walls give evidence of the widening of a street. Here and there a group of buildings has disappeared to give a public area, or piazza. On the northeastern corner of the Capitoline hill an old convent is now in course of demolition to make room for the splendid monument to Victor Emmanuel. The ancient Tiber is almost transformed into a prosaic modern river, flowing between brand-new, lofty retaining walls of stone. This work of "canalization" has occupied several years, and is now about two-thirds completed. The effect of it will be to widen and deepen the river channel, and thus to regulate and moderate the flow of water in time of floods, which have always been disastrous to the lower levels of the city. Meantime the river is inclosed by unsightly fences, for the convenience of the workmen, and the banks are inaccessible to the public. A broad driveway will be constructed on each bank, while the shabby houses and unsightly traces of demolition that now front upon the river will doubtless give place to new structures. New bridges have been thrown across. One of them, a hundred yards south of the Ponte San Angelo, is a high iron truss of the usual railroad pattern, which is shockingly out of keeping with the surroundings. I am told that it is for temporary use, but it looks alarmingly substantial. To leave it there would be a crime. The Cloaca Maxima (or sewer) which has drained the low-lying Forum into the Tiber for 2,300 years or more (the earliest example of the arch at Rome), has been duly respected in the construction of the new embankment, and now protrudes its modest arch into the stream through a recess in the heavy masonry above it. The wood-cuts representing this ancient structure, in the school histories of Rome, will now have to be altered to give its changed

earance correctly. Rome is now suffering from a recent era of speculations. Many of the great buildings begun two or three years ago are still unfin-ished. Failures of banks and individuals, and a general scarcity of work for the laboring class, have caused much distress. There is said to be much poverty, although begging is prohibited by law, and is almost unseen. The Italian papers comment upon the small families and steady employment of the French, compared with the prolific marriages and scanty sustenance of the Italians. From this they argue a future decline in the power of France, and an increase of strength for Italy, if the latter can pass safely through the period of depression. Certainly, bambinos abound in every street. ROMAN ARCHITECTURE.

An acquaintance with Italian, especially

with Roman architecture, leaves two lasting impressions upon the mind-the strength and durability of brick as a building material, and the wide range of application in the use of stucco. The grandest remains of ancient architecture at Rome. apart from the Colosseum, are of brick, e. g., the Basilica of Constantine, the Baths of Caracalla, the Pantheon, the ruins on the Palatine hill. The walls were veneered with marble, but the mass of the walls was brick. As for stucco, its use is universal. A modern or mediæval structure in Rome whose walls are not plastered on the exterior with stucco is rarely seen. Even the interior of St. Peter's, where there is an incredible profusion of colored marbles and other rare materials, the main pillars of the nave and transept, all the capitals of columns, the srchitraves, pegiments and cornices, are of stucco upon a central core of brick or rough stone. The imitation is so perfect that the eye is often deceived. It is not for a layman to decide whether this violates the principles of architecture considered as a fine art, but certainly it awakens a temporary surprise and disap-pointment. The facades of the palaces, as well as those of the new and pretentions structures of current Roman architecture, impress me as homely and monotonous. Their black, stuccoed wall-spaces, relieved only by uniform rows of windows with heavy sills and cornices likewise of stucce, are much less pleasing than the facades in our American cities, with their variety of material and delicacy of line. How far considerations of climate, of correct taste and of "the point of view" have entered into the shaping of these different national types of architecture, I leave to others to decide, I must admit, however, that a glance at foreign architecture gives me a higher opinion of our own.

The idler who scribbles his name and res idence in public places is rather more numerous and more persistent in Italy than elsewhere. No place is too sacred for him. As extreme instances I may cite the statue of St. Peter, in the church of the same name.